

LEARNING CONNECTION

September/October 2009

Welcome our new Principal Librarian

Callie Ahrens has worked for the Carlsbad Library for 23 years and as Head of Dove Reference for seven years. She began her library career in Humboldt County as a Circulation Clerk.

While managing a branch library in a small farming community she realized that working in a library was what she was meant to do. "Whether finding books and information for patrons, presenting pre-school story time, or writing a letter for a patron who spoke English but couldn't write (she gave me fresh eggs for every letter) I found that I loved every aspect of library work."

"The concept of public service, of giving of yourself and your talents to the community, has guided me through my years as a librarian. I can think of no higher calling."



Callie Ahrens, Principal Librarian

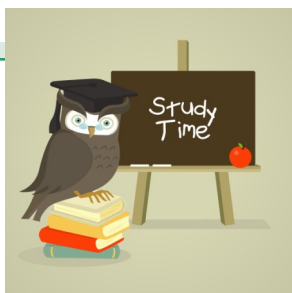
Callie earned a degree in Sociology at UCSD and her masters in Library Science from the University of Arizona. She was hired right out of library school by Carlsbad Library. "Why go anywhere else when you work for the best?"

"I am awed at the tremendous impact of the bilingual and literacy programs in our community.

I am excited to be joining the Learning Center team and look forward to working with all the staff in continuing your excellent work and achieving our goals for the future."

She has two sons, one is a graduate of the California Culinary Academy and is an executive chef at a restaurant in San Diego and the other is a graduate of the UCLA theater school and is a theater technical director and lighting designer.

Callie is a lifetime fan of the Padres, loves to read history, mysteries and science fiction, enjoys attending plays, listening to music, walking and traveling.



Make the Most of Your Study Time

Although Literacy Services doesn't take a summer vacation, the fall always signals a renewed energy and interest in learning.

Everything around us is focused on back-to-school, and this issue of the Learning Connection is no exception. It is filled with information that will help you make the most of the many resources available to you at the Learning Center.

The Learning Center is One Year Old!

The Learning Center opened its doors on August 23, 2008, and what a year it has been!

During the first year of operation, the Learning Center welcomed 28,000 visitors. Our staff of 7.75 FTE (full-time equivalent) employees answered almost 8,800 reference questions and provided a full array of library and literacy services.

During the first year in its new location, Literacy Services provided 100 adults with twice-weekly instruction and assistance in reading, writing, and computer literacy skills. 12,400 volunteer hours supported this effort along with the Bilingual Services Homework Zone, which served more than 1,200 students with

homework and learning assistance during the school year.

The one-year anniversary was celebrated with an open house on Thursday, August 27, and featured a family concert, refreshments, giveaways and other fun activities.

The Carlsbad City Library Learning Center is a warm and welcoming community gathering place where lifelong learning is supported for all ages. We look forward to another successful year.



For Those With 9:00 a.m. Appointments

Attention morning tutors and learners!

We have been reminded by Library Administration that we are not allowed to admit tutors and learners into the Learning Center before 8:50 am.

If you have a 9:00 am tutoring session, please plan to arrive between 8:50 am and 9:00 am. Fall and winter will be coming, and we would hate for you to be waiting outside in bad weather!



Writer to Writer

Five learners from Literacy Services submitted entries in the Writer to Writer Contest.

People entering this contest write a letter to an author whose writing has changed the way he or she thinks about life.

Awards will be given in October, but everyone who enters earns a certificate of participation from the California State Library. Congratulations to the following people for taking part in this exciting challenge:

Fernanda J.
Ramon G.
Nyla H.
Michaelle J.
Camila R.

Learning Center Computer Classes

Did you know that computer classes are being offered in our computer lab for anyone who would like to attend? Many people from the community come into our beautiful building to take advantage of these classes.

Also, some learning pairs have gone to classes together to share the experience and the knowledge. We always have schedules of upcoming classes at the front desk, and we can enroll you in any classes that look interesting.



Are you a Pro at Using the Library?

Check your status as a professional library user by answering the following questions. The higher your score, the closer to Pro level you are.

Answer *True* or *False*

1. I always need my library card to check out books.
2. I should put items back on the shelf after I look at them.
3. If I forget to renew an item, it will automatically be renewed for me.
4. I can't check out magazines.
5. I have to pick up holds at the library where the book is located.
6. Checking out DVDs is different than checking out books.
7. I am responsible for paying fines for overdue books or items I have lost.

See page 4 for the correct answers.

Pair Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following pairs who are celebrating a year or more of learning together!

Paula M. and Maribel R. – 1 year
 Barbara S. and Stephanie S. – 1 year
 Leslie R. and Alex R. – 1 year
 Jim B. and Ramon G. – 1 year
 Sandy Z. and Graciela V. – 1 year
 Jenn S. and Kim G. – 1 year
 Betty G. and Nahid P. – 1 year
 Leslie R. and Fatima E. – 1 year
 Diane Q. and Maria W. – 2 years
 Geoff A. and Li L. – 2 years
 Geoff A. and Albina L. – 2 years
 Marilyn S. and Fernanda J. – 2 years
 Barbara M. and Emma W. – 2 years
 Ila S. and Josef L. – 3 years
 Joan L. and Willie C. – 4 years
 Lory M. and Aurelia D. – 4 years
 Ann W. and Lupe G. – 4 years
 Pat R. and Rita A. – 4 years
 Ein D. and Mel K. – 6 years

Summer Reading Program Winners

Week One: Mariana R.

Week Two: Vicky S. and Alex R.

Week Three: Marilyn S. and Amy M.

Week Four: Lorraine A. and Fernanda J.



Week Five: La Keisha F. and Michaelle J.

Week Six: Madel M. and Ken C.

Week Seven: Madel M. and Nyla H.

Answers: Are you a Pro at Using the Library?

1. *True.* Your library card is proof that you are registered to borrow books, like your driver's license is proof you are registered to drive your car. Having your card handy also makes the process much faster.
2. *False.* Instead of re-shelving items, put them in the book drop or give them to a staff member at the front desk. The staff keeps track of the materials that are used so we know how popular they are. If certain items are used a lot, we may order more or find more books on the same topic.
3. *False.* You are responsible for renewing items on or before the due date. They can't be automatically renewed because other people may be waiting for the same item.
4. *False.* The current version of each magazine needs to stay in the library, but you can check out back issues, just like books.
5. *False.* You can put books on hold and have them sent to the Learning Center for pick up. The hold area is on the first floor, and any member of the staff will be glad to show you the location.
6. *True.* You can check books out for three weeks, but DVDs are checked out for only 7 days. With books there is no charge unless you have a late fee, but there is a cost of \$0.75 per DVD.
7. *True.* Talk to a member of the staff as soon as possible if you think you have a fine on your account or if you think you've lost a book.

Hope you had fun with the quiz and learned something, too!

Learner Achievements



-Accessed community services and resources

-Searched want-ads online

-Got library cards

-Read lots of books

-Read work-related manuals

-Read street and traffic signs

-Used a map

-Wrote letters

-Wrote checks

-Planned nutritious meals



Leslie R. – coffee pot and coffee

Hillary K. – plant

Camille K. – peaches/apples/bananas

Kerry M. – apples/tomatoes

Mary Lou S. – tea

Rita A. – cherry cordials

Harriet N. – cooking magazines, cookies

Joanne H. – brownies

Aurelia D. – rococo and butterball cookies (Italian Treats)

Fred K. – Scrabble CD-ROM

Rosanna & Joanna T. – donuts

Beth M. – flowers

Remember that no visitors are allowed in tutoring sessions, classes, or in the building except during open hours or special events. Our program is only for learners and tutors who are registered as participants.